



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2006

The Honorable Ralph Regula
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services and Education
2358 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Regula:

As you begin work on the FY 2007 Appropriations bills, we are writing to respectfully request that you include the Title X national family planning program among your list of funding priorities for FY 2007 and ask that it be funded at \$375 million. The current funding level is \$283 million. A just-released government review of Title X family planning services confirms that the program serves a unique and valuable purpose, is cost-effective, and is effectively managed. Yet current funding is inadequate to keep up with inflation, medical advances and a growing population of uninsured Americans. Had Title X funding kept up with inflation it would now be funded at nearly \$700 million.

Widespread use of birth control continues to be a critical component of basic preventive health care for women and has been the driving force in reducing national rates of unintended pregnancies, STDs, and abortion. Importantly, contraceptive use has led to dramatic declines in maternal and infant mortality rates and has vastly improved maternal and infant health.

Still, many American women do not have access to birth control services. Further, the United States continues to have one of the highest rates of unintended pregnancies among western nations – almost half of the 6 million pregnancies in this country each year are unintended, and more than half of those end in abortion. Enter Title X, the national family planning program.

Title X clinics provide high-quality contraceptive services and other preventive health care to low-income women who would otherwise lack access to health care. Title X clinics serve over five million low-income women at 4,500 clinics nationwide. In addition to providing contraceptive services, Title X clinics provide basic preventive health services. In calendar year 2004, Title X funded clinics provided 2.8 million Pap tests, 2.7 million breast exams, 5.4 million STD tests, and 530,569 HIV tests.



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Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2006

The Honorable David Obey
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services and Education
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Obey:

As you begin work on the FY 2007 Appropriations bills, we are writing to respectfully request that you include the Title X national family planning program among your list of funding priorities for FY 2007 and ask that it be funded at \$375 million. The current funding level is \$283 million. A just-released government review of Title X family planning services confirms that the program serves a unique and valuable purpose, is cost-effective, and is effectively managed. Yet current funding is inadequate to keep up with inflation, medical advances and a growing population of uninsured Americans. Had Title X funding kept up with inflation it would now be funded at nearly \$700 million.

Widespread use of birth control continues to be a critical component of basic preventive health care for women and has been the driving force in reducing national rates of unintended pregnancies, STDs, and abortion. Importantly, contraceptive use has led to dramatic declines in maternal and infant mortality rates and has vastly improved maternal and infant health.

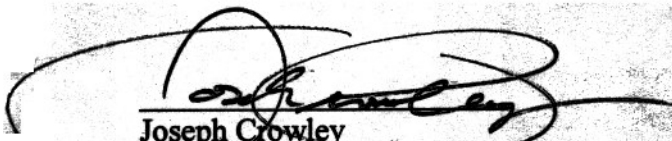
Still, many American women do not have access to birth control services. Further, the United States continues to have one of the highest rates of unintended pregnancies among western nations – almost half of the 6 million pregnancies in this country each year are unintended, and more than half of those end in abortion. Enter Title X, the national family planning program.

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While Title X is one of the nation's best and most cost-effective public health success stories, federal funding is insufficient to meet the enormous need for publicly-supported contraceptive services. Without additional funding clinics will be unable to both meet the increasing demand for health services and provide the quality preventive care that is their trademark. For example, Title X sites are well-situated to provide the rapid HIV tests and chlamydia screening that the Administration has highlighted as key public health priorities however the dwindling federal public health dollars make these costly services difficult to provide.

We are mindful of the many competing budget priorities, however, we urge you to invest in programs like Title X that promote public health and at the same time save scarce public health dollars. ***For every public dollar invested in family planning, three dollars are saved in Medicaid costs for pregnancy and newborn care alone.*** Please include Title X among your list of funding priorities and request \$375 million in funding in FY 2007 as a minimal investment in basic health care for low-income women. Thank you for your consideration.

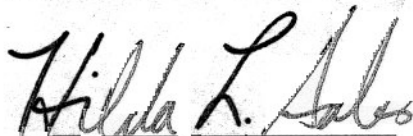
Sincerely,




Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



James A. Leach
Member of Congress



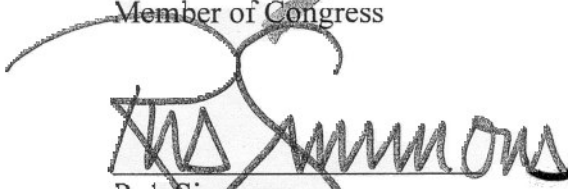
Hilda L. Solis
Member of Congress



Christopher Shays
Member of Congress



Louise McIntosh Slaughter
Member of Congress



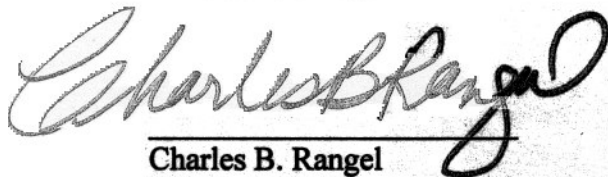
Rob Simmons
Member of Congress



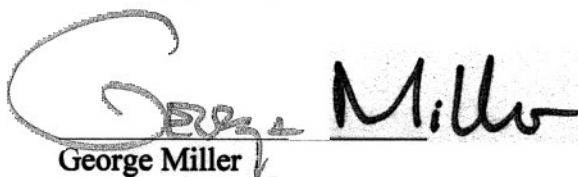
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



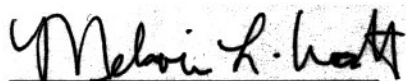
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



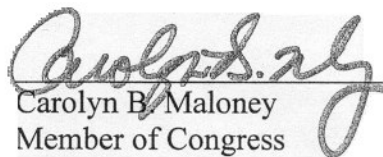
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



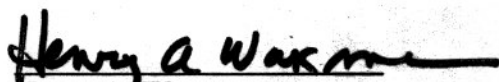
George Miller
Member of Congress



Melvin L. Watt
Member of Congress



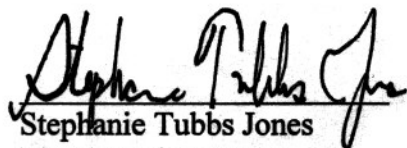
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



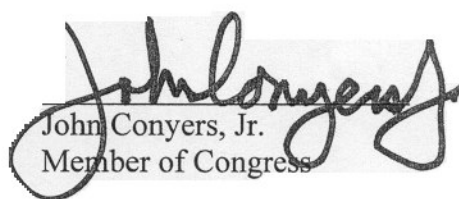
Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress



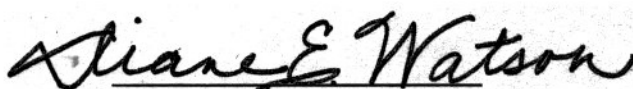
Jay Inslee
Member of Congress



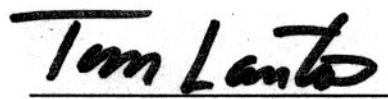
Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Member of Congress



John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Diane E. Watson
Member of Congress



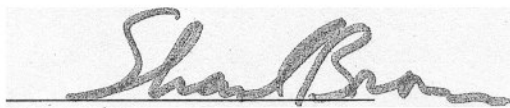
Tom Lantos
Member of Congress



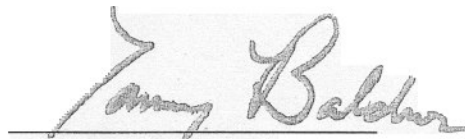
Joe Baca
Member of Congress



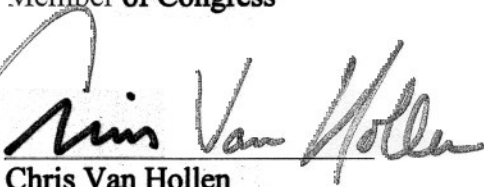
Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Sherrod Brown
Member of Congress



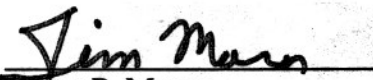
Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress



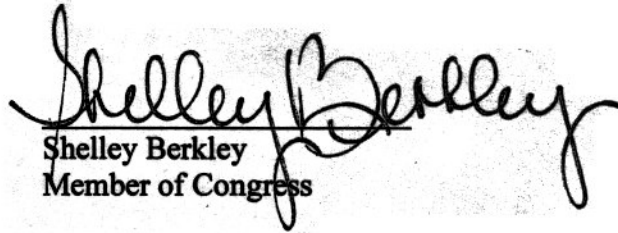
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



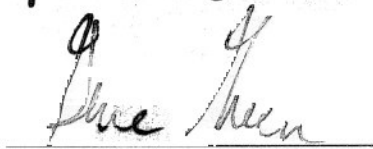
Ed Case
Member of Congress



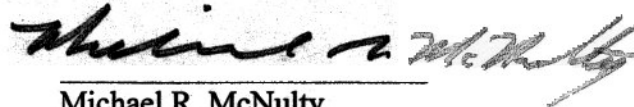
James P. Moran
Member of Congress



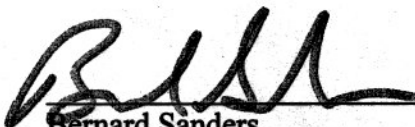
Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress



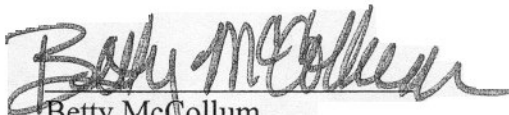
Gene Green
Member of Congress



Michael R. McNulty
Member of Congress



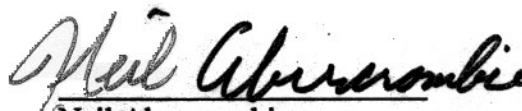
Bernard Sanders
Member of Congress



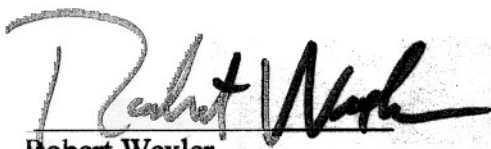
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



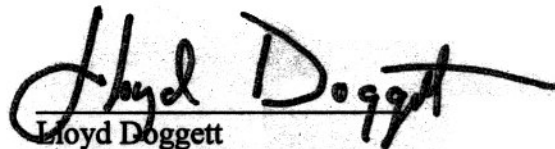
Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



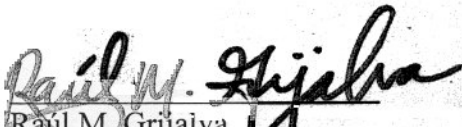
Neil Abercrombie
Member of Congress



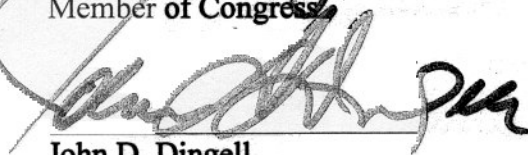
Robert Wexler
Member of Congress



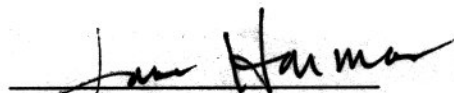
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress




Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress



Jode Harman
Member of Congress



Howard L. Berman
Member of Congress



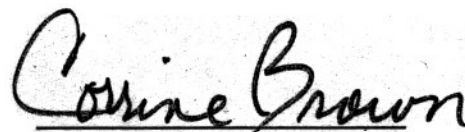
David Wu
Member of Congress



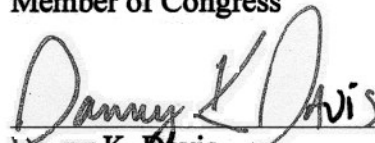
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Rush D. Holt
Member of Congress



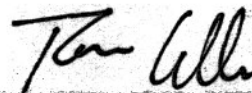
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



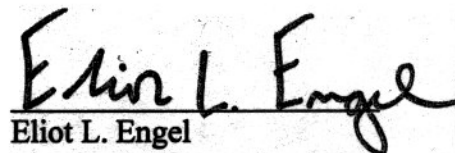
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



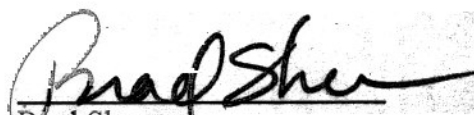
Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress



Thomas H. Allen
Member of Congress



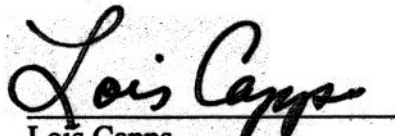
Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

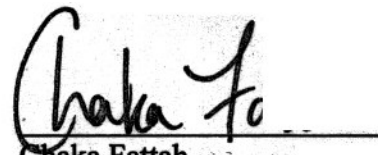


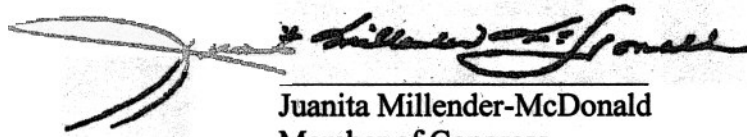
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

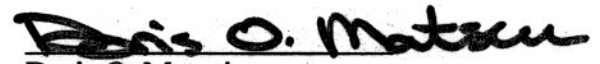



Sam Farr
Member of Congress

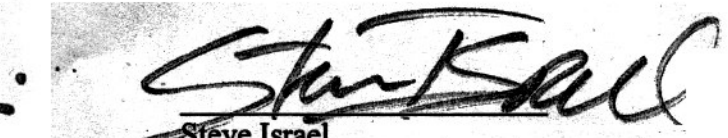

Lois Capps
Member of Congress


Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress

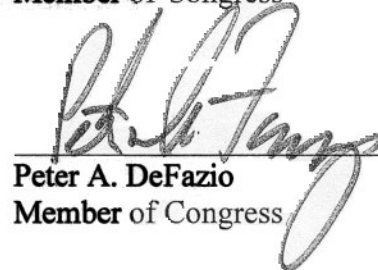

Juanita Millender-McDonald
Member of Congress

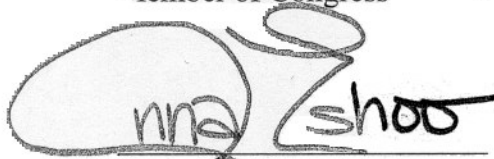

Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress

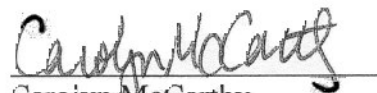

Steve Israel
Member of Congress

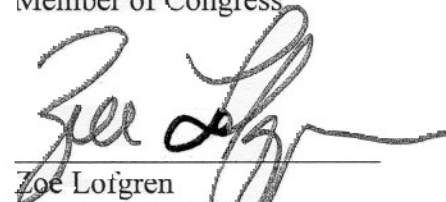

Charles A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress

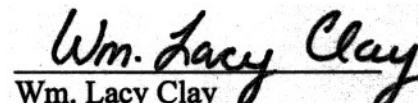

Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress

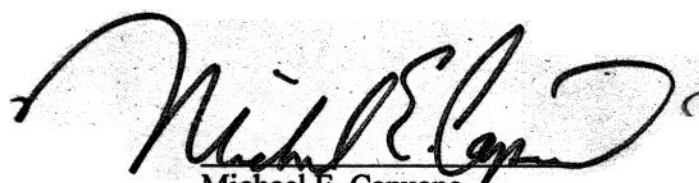

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress


Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Caroiyn McCarthy
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress




Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



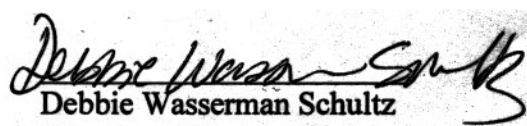
Al Green
Member of Congress



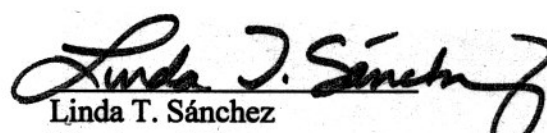
Gary L. Ackerman
Member of Congress



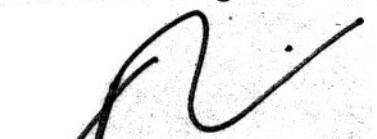
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress




Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



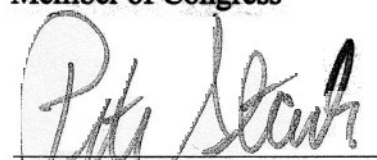
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress




Anthony D. Weiner
Member of Congress




Bob Filner
Member of Congress



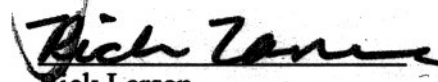
Fortney Pete Stark
Member of Congress



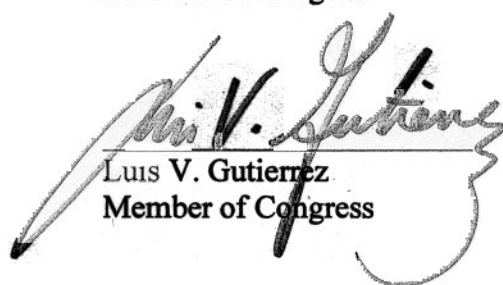
Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



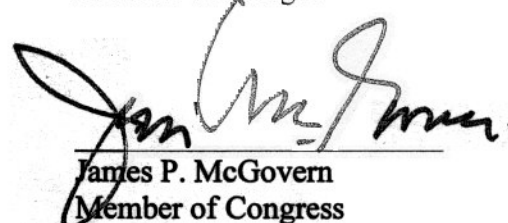
Jay Inslee
Member of Congress



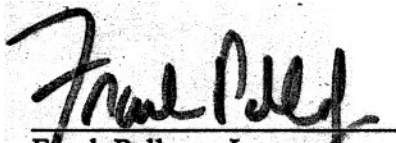
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

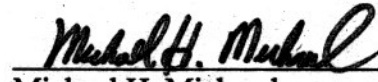


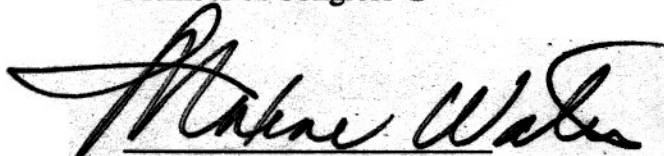
Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress

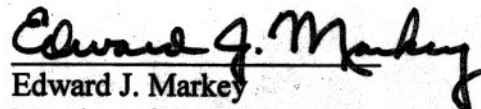


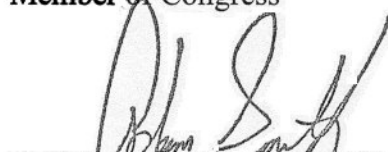
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

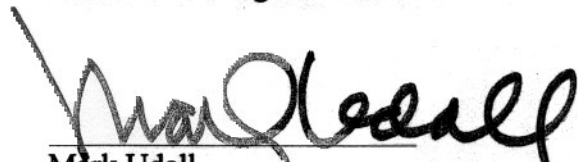

Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

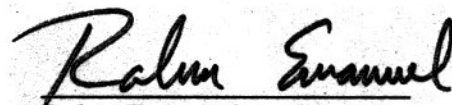

Michael H. Michaud
Member of Congress

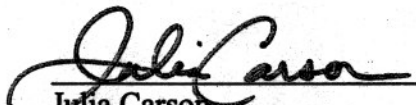

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress

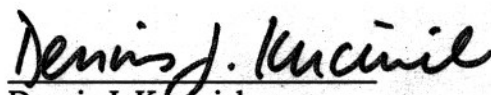

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

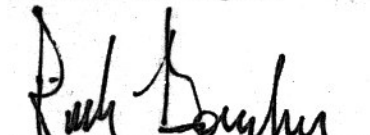

Mark Udall
Member of Congress

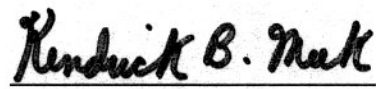

Rahm Emanuel
Member of Congress



Julia Carson
Member of Congress

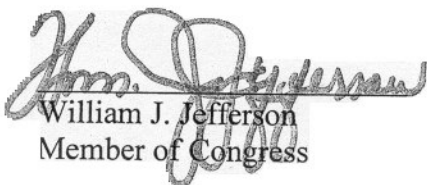

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

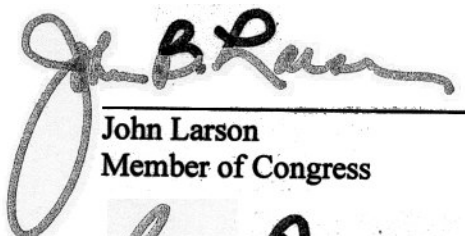

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

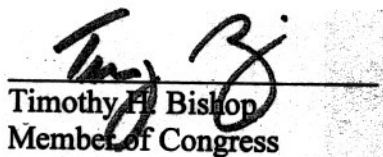

Rick Boucher
Member of Congress

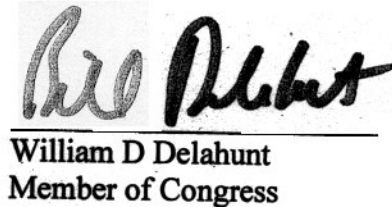

Kendrick B. Meek
Member of Congress

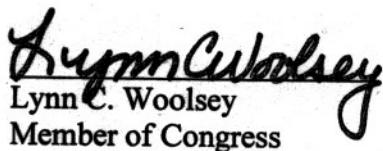

Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress

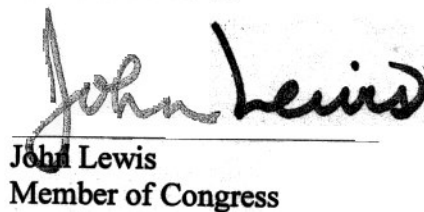

William J. Jefferson
Member of Congress

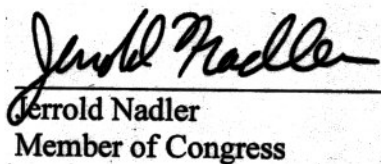

John Larson
Member of Congress

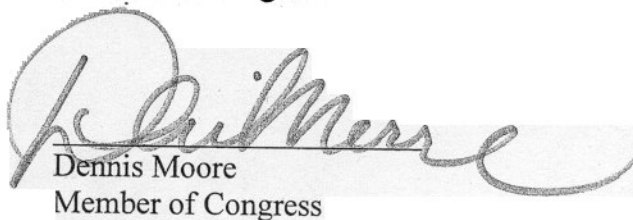

Timothy H. Bishop
Member of Congress

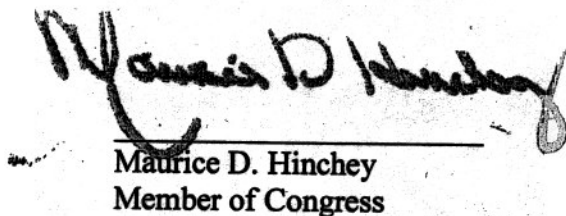

William D. Delahunt
Member of Congress

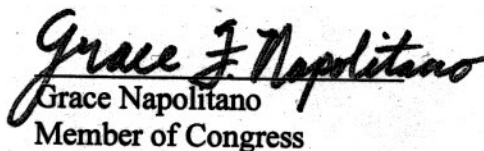

Lynn C. Woolsey
Member of Congress



John Lewis
Member of Congress

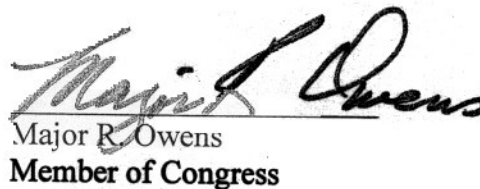

Terrold Nadler
Member of Congress

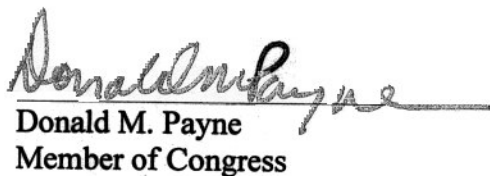

Dennis Moore
Member of Congress

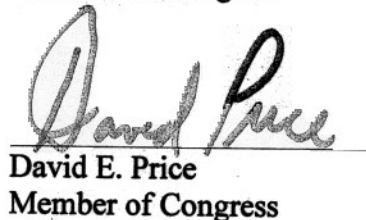

Maurice D. Hinchey
Member of Congress


Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress

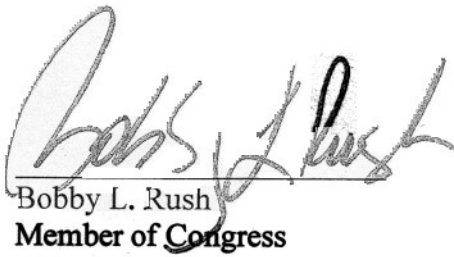

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

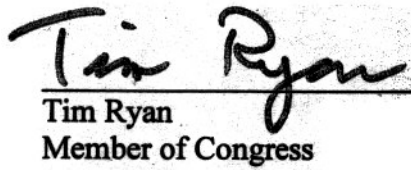

Major R. Owens
Member of Congress


Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress

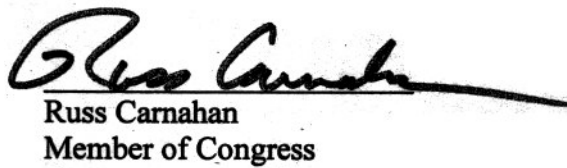

David E. Price
Member of Congress


C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress


Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress


Tim Ryan
Member of Congress


David Scott
Member of Congress


Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress